

John Hamilton

Blacksmith in Charleston

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JOHN HAMILTON SR.

John Hamilton Sr. was born in Saintfield, County of Down, Ireland, on July 12, 1807, son of Abel and Mary Jamieson Hamilton. The only written record of his life is in a diary he kept in his own handwriting. The following is quoted directly from the diary as he wrote it:

"I was raised with my father and mother in Hillsborough, County of Down, and learned the whitesmith trade with my father.

"On the 22nd of May, 1827, I married the third daughter of John and Mary Creighton and on the 22nd of June, 1830, she brought forth a son, whose name was William. On June 13, 1832, we had another son, whose name was Samuel. August 6, 1834, we had another son, whose name was John (Jr.), which was the last child we had.

"Our son William died February 1, 1839.

"My wife and I were strictly brought up in the Church of England, which we thought was the true church till the fall of 1840. Elder Theodore Curtis was sent from Manchester to Ireland on a mission and stopped at Hillsborough, and when we heard the gospel he preached it made a great change in us, and on the 4th or 5th of November, 1840, we were baptized, and then the devil began to howl. Brother Curtis never spoke of gathering, but about two days after we were baptized I spoke to him about coming to Zion and he told me I had got the spirit of gathering.

HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

"I carried on the smith trade from the time I was married till November, 1842, when I commenced to make ready for a start, when I sailed from Belfast to Liverpool on December 31, 1843. We had to stay in Liverpool on account of high winds, till the 16th before we sailed. After a pleasant voyage we landed in New Orleans on the 15th of March, 1843. The name of the ship was the "Swanton," of Bath, and her captain's name was Davenport. He was very kind to the passengers. On the night of the 17th of March we sailed up the Mississippi River in a steamboat called the "Goddess of Liberty." It was a very hard winter up north, and the water was very low and could not come much speed. When we got to St. Louis we had to take a lighter boat to take us to Nauvoo and to wait eleven days there till the river broke up, and we landed in Nauvoo on the 12th of April, 1843.

"When the Prophet Joseph seen us coming up the river, he, with Brothers Hyrum and Kimball, came down to the river to meet us. Brother Lorenzo Snow was in charge of the company from Liverpool, and a good man he was. I had a letter of introduction from Brother Andrew Henry to William Law, who was counselor to the Prophet, at the time, and I wrought (blacksmithed) for him 31 days and then rented the shop and tools till I built a house and shop for myself, which was a little above the Temple. When I went on my tenth day to work on the Temple, the stone cutter petitioned the committee any wages in reason to get me to stop and do their tools, so I stopped and did the smith work on the Temple.

"During this time the mob and apostates did all they could to annoy the Saints. The Laws and Fosters and two sons of Judge Nibley, who apostatized and joined the mob. The apostates published a paper called the Nauvoo Expositor, full of lies and slander. Joseph was the Mayor of the City and called the city council together and declared the paper a nuisance, so they broke open the door and destroyed the press and type. I was present when it was done. Then the howl went (was) up and they entered lawsuit against Joseph and a writ was issued for his arrest.

"Joseph called the Legion out to speak to them, and he said they wanted to butcher

him. He stood on a small frame of a house and put his hands up and called on the Great Eloheim, if he had the work done He gave him to do done, that death would be sweeter than honey in the comb, and said Amen to it, and everyone said Amen. But we did not think we were sanctioning his death till it was too late.

"Joseph just preached once on the stand after (this), which was a discourse on plurality of the Gods. A few days after he went across the river to come west, when some of the fearful Saints went and pleaded with him to come back. He said the spirit told him to go west. One said: 'Brother Joseph, you said you would die for this people.' He said: 'So I will die for them,' and he came back and gave himself up. Then Hyrum and Joseph started for Carthage when they met a posse coming for the government—when they turned back and delivered themselves up to the posse and came up Mulholland Street."

*John Sr
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Mary Creighton

Anna Mennorrow was born October 15, 1866, daughter of Lamanite parents, Paw-wow-a-woots (Mennorrow) and Wearament, or Jennie, of the Piute tribe. When she was 1½ years of age she was given to John and Mary Hamilton at Hamilton Fort, Iron County, Utah, having been born in that vicinity, in exchange for a horse. Food was scarce among the Indians and one mouth less to feed meant more food for the other children. In the Hamilton family she had many foster brothers and sisters and was treated kindly by these good people. During her childhood days she assisted in milking and herding the cows, making butter and cheese and other chores along with the Hamilton children. Her Indian mother often came to visit her, bringing gifts of pine nuts, and was usually accompanied by one or two little sisters, so that she did not lose contact with her own family for many years. Her mother was 80 years old and blind when she saw her for the last time. She (Anna) does not know exactly when she died or where she is buried.

In 1874, when Anna was eight years old, she was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. As Anna grew older she wanted to attend school and the desire became so strong she determined to go where she could earn enough money to obtain an education. There were no schools where the Hamiltons resided and she could seldom attend meeting or Sunday School.

One day, when she was in her teens, she decided to go to Cedar City. Unmindful of her responsibility of herding the cows, she started down into the valley. Many miles and many hours later Anna arrived at the home of her foster brother and his wife, where she was kindly received. She lived in the home of Peter Fife for awhile. Then, with the family of Uriah T. Jones, she made money doing housework.

In the meantime, the foster parents, John and Mary Hamilton, had moved to Heber City to make their home. Mrs. Hamilton

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became very ill and sent for Anna, who agreed to stay to care for her. She remained until she died. After the death of her foster mother, Anna returned to Salt Lake City, where she lived in the home of Sadie Green McNeal while she attended a private school conducted by Mildred Randall. After a short time she went to work for Lulu Green Richards until she completed her school term. Soon after, Anna became interested in a home economics course being taught by Grace Cannon in the old Constitution Bldg. The course cost \$20. When it was completed, Anna was given a letter of high recommendation, which helped her to get positions in some of the best homes in Salt Lake City, including the A. W. McCune and H. G. McMill residences.

Deciding that she would like to travel, Anna left Salt Lake City for San Francisco, California, where she secured employment in the home of an army captain for two years. She later went with the family to Seattle, Washington. After the children grew up, Anna worked in the home of Mr. Pantages of show fame, and later in a home for aged women. While living in a boarding house it caught fire one night and she was injured. Her possessions were also destroyed. Upon leaving the hospital she was given necessary clothing by a doctor.

Returning to Salt Lake City, she was employed a number of years in the home of John C. Howard. She then worked at St. Mark's Hospital, as a pastry maker, and later as head cook. From St. Mark's she went to the Salt Lake County Hospital and from there to the Bingham Hospital, where she was employed as head cook for four years.

Anna was a member of the Fourteenth Ward, Salt Lake Stake. She was selected Relief Society teacher and set apart for that office on January 28, 1942, by Elder George D. Eyre. She gathered the genealogy of her parents and family as far as she was able and had baptisms and other Temple ordinances performed for them. She has served as Daughters of Utah Pioneers librarian for Camp 14. She now lives at the home of a foster niece and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hatch, at Kennewick, Washington, where she writes she is treated kindly and that she is making new friends, but not forgetting the old. She is a kindly, humble

person, striving in every way to be a faithful Latter-day Saint. Her life has been filled with service to others and a credit to her Lamanite heritage.

Anna Mennorrow Hamilton died Easter Sunday, April 6, 1958.